

COLORADO SPRINGS



GAZETTE TELEGRAPH

JANUARY 30, 1997

50¢ DAILY/\$1 SUNDAY

Board chooses middle path

Jay Janner/Gazette Telegraph



Publication decisions left with students

By Wendy Y. Lawton
Gazette Telegraph

A new policy on what can be printed in student newspapers, magazines and yearbooks is now in place in Colorado Springs School District 11.

The rule, passed by the D-11 school board Wednesday, addresses some of the concerns expressed in dozens of personal letters, public speeches and private telephone calls to the school board in the past three months.

But despite all the outcry and the effort, the policy doesn't stray far from its predecessor.

The decision-making power over what D-11 high school journalists can print is still in the hands of students.

The only stories that can be banned are those that fail to meet guidelines handed down under Colorado's student publications law — stories found to be obscene, defamatory, false, dangerous or disruptive and in violation of privacy rights.

So, law-abiding articles can be published on sticky subjects such as abortion, AIDS, school prayer — or even homosexuality. It was the homosexuality topic, tackled in two stories in the Palmer High School newspaper in October, which prompted

See D-11/A14

Lydia Kelow, 16, a staff reporter for the Doherty High School newspaper, The Spectrum, works on a trend story about teen-age coffee drinkers Wednesday at the school. The District 11 school

board on Wednesday evening adopted a policy on what stories high school publications may print. The policy basically leaves decision making in the hands of students, with some parameters.

Dog tries to stop Wallace interview

Mike Wallace is accustomed to people baring their teeth in anger when he asks them tough questions for CBS' "60 Minutes."

But the veteran newsman got more than he bargained for recently when a snarling German shepherd came after him as he approached the Canadian home of a man identified by Jewish groups as a suspected Nazi war criminal.

Even though Wallace and his crew followed instructions and honked their car horn when they entered the long dirt driveway, the large dog, fangs bared, bounded toward them when they got out of the car.

"He made a pass at me," Wallace told The Associated Press. "He got my coat. He tore the coat. Right after me, he sank his teeth into the thigh of the sound man." Fortunately, the man had a portable battery strapped to his thigh.



Wallace

GQ different for shops, subscribers

The February issue of GQ magazine has two covers with one big difference: what's covering supermodel Rebecca Romijn as she stands in front of Dennis Rodman.

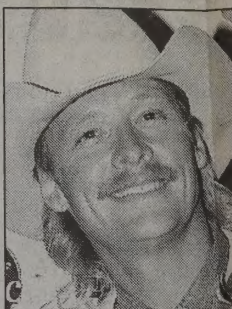
The version selling at newsstands shows Romijn wearing a white string bikini. Subscribers to the magazine get the bikini bottom, but instead of the top they see likenesses of Rodman's hands painted on her bare breasts.

The magazine knew retailers would be loath to show the racier version.

Jackson to open chain of cafes

Country singer Alan Jackson is branching out from his stage career with his own

PEOPLE



Jackson

brand of down-home cooking.

He announced plans Wednesday for the \$5.6 million Alan Jackson Showcar Cafe in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

The eatery, to open in July and be the first of a planned chain, will feature traditional American recipes straight out of his cookbook, "Who Says You Can't Cook It All."

It also will feature recording memorabilia, a small stage and antique cars.

Davis gets his Hollywood star

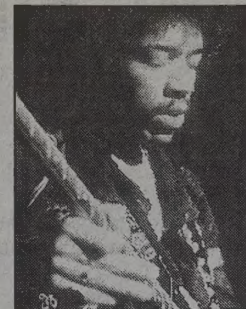
Veteran music executive Clive Davis has helped make stars, now he's got one of his own.

"I have a job that consumes my passions, fulfills my dreams and yet brings joy, sometimes inspiration, sometimes escape and sometimes just plain fun," Davis told a throng Tuesday at the dedication of his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Hendrix licensing agreement signed

The purple haze has cleared.

Years of legal wrangling over rights to Jimi Hendrix recordings ended Tuesday in Universal City, Calif., with MCA Records signing an exclusive worldwide



Hendrix

licensing agreement with the heirs and estate of the guitarist who died 27 years ago.

The Hendrix catalog will be released on MCA Records in conjunction with Experience Hendrix, a family-run entity.

Rather mystery is finally solved

The mystery may be solved: Dan Rather has identified the man he says beat him up on the street in 1986 while demanding to

know "Kenneth, what is the frequency?"

The CBS anchor said his assailant was William Tager, now in prison for killing an NBC stagehand outside the "Today" show in 1994.

Tager was convinced the media had him under surveillance and were beaming hostile messages to him, and he demanded that Rather tell him the frequency being used, according to a forensic psychiatrist who examined Tager after the NBC shooting.

The anchorman identified Tager from pictures supplied by the New York Daily News.

"There's no doubt in my mind that this is the person," Rather said in Wednesday's News.

Gazette Telegraph news services

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Jan. 30, the 30th day of 1997. There are 335 days left in the year.

■ TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY

On Jan. 30, 1948, Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi was murdered by a Hindu extremist.

■ ON THIS DATE

In 1649, England's King Charles I was beheaded.

In 1933, Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany.

In 1933, the first episode of the "Lone Ranger" radio program was broadcast.

In 1962, two members of the Flying Wallendas high-wire act were killed when their seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance in Detroit.

In 1968, the Tet offensive began as Communist forces launched surprise attacks against South Vietnamese provincial capitals.

■ TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Gene Hackman is 67.

Actress-comedian Brett Butler is 39.

ACCU WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY, JAN. 30, 1997

CENTRAL MOUNTAINS: Sunny to partly cloudy today with highs of 28-54. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Lows 2 below to 24 above zero.

FRONT RANGE: Mostly sunny and unseasonably mild today; a gusty breeze. Highs 55-59. A few clouds and breezy tonight. Lows 25-31.

WESTERN SLOPE: A mostly sunny sky and a pleasant afternoon today. Highs 38-46. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Lows 8-22.

EASTERN PLAINS: An abundance of sunshine today. Highs 55-61. Mainly clear tonight. Lows 23-29.

City	Yest.	Today	Fri.	Sat.	City	Yest.	Today	Fri.	Sat.
Akron	44 23 s	55 27 s	59 32 pc	60 28 pc	Grand Junction	42 23 s	44 21 s	45 24 s	46 26 s
Alamosa	36 7 pc	48 9 s	48 13 pc	50 13 pc	Gunnison	33 -2 s	34 -1 s	34 2 s	37 4 s
Aspen	34 13 s	41 14 s	42 17 pc	44 18 s	La Junta	49 18 pc	58 28 s	63 31 s	62 30 pc
Buena Vista	35 5 s	47 20 s	49 22 pc	52 20 pc	Leadville	33 1 s	45 16 s	45 16 pc	47 18 pc
Denver	46 24 s	57 30 s	61 34 pc	62 30 pc	Limon	45 31 s	55 23 s	60 29 pc	61 25 pc
Durango	35 12 pc	42 12 s	44 20 s	52 21 s	Pueblo	48 17 pc	59 25 s	64 30 s	64 31 pc
Fort Collins	41 25 s	57 31 s	56 33 pc	59 29 pc	Trinidad	44 18 pc	55 26 s	63 32 s	65 31 pc
Glenwood Springs	39 12 s	41 13 s	43 16 s	42 17 s	Vail	30 9 s	38 9 s	39 13 pc	41 13 s

LOCAL STATISTICS

PRECIPITATION

24 hours to 5 p.m. yesterday trace
Total for month to date 0.25"
Normal for month to date 0.29"
Total this year to date 0.25"
Normal for year to date 0.20"

HIGH/LOW (as of 5 p.m.)

High Yesterday 39°
Low Yesterday 32°

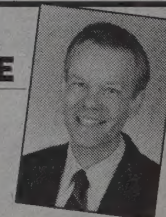
TODAY'S RECORDS

SUN

Sunrise today 7:07
Sunset today 5:18
Sunrise tomorrow 7:06
Sunset tomorrow 5:19

Mike Madson's DAILY WEATHER EYE

For the next few days, a ridge of high pressure, centered where you see the big "H" on the national weather map, will control the weather at your house. Winds will be gusty at times, particularly near the mountains, but in return, temperatures will be well above average today, and I may be forecasting on the conservative side, and warmer through Saturday.



MIKE'S FORECAST

Today: Breezy. High 55.

Tonight: Fair. Low 30.

Friday: Breezy. High 60.

Extended Outlook

Saturday: Windy at times. High 60. Low

D-11/Sexual-conduct policy ahead

From A1

the policy review and revisions.

The Palmer High articles — a feature on gay teens and an editorial backing gay marriage — also triggered a full-blown community phenomenon. Public speeches about morality, sexuality and freedom ensued for weeks after the stories appeared, along with behind-the-scenes politicking and front-page media attention.

The articles even fueled calls for a separate district policy on sexual conduct. Colorado for Family Values has thrown its full support behind the idea of new guidelines that support traditional marriage and abstinence, and discourage sexual promiscuity.

By the end of March, after a board subcommittee reviews current D-11 policies and practices when it comes to abstinence and marriage, the board will discuss that proposal.

The commitment to revisit the Family Values issue pushed board member Art Nutter to throw his support behind the publication policy for now.

It passed by a 6-0 vote, with Vice President Sherry Butcher absent.

While there was a brief board tussle about how the state law on student publications could be interpreted — Nutter believed the Palmer articles couldn't be

published under the new policy because they promoted sodomy — Wednesday's meeting lacked all the spectacle of sessions past.

Only two citizens spoke on the subject and there were plenty of empty chairs in the board room.

But board members said they had the public in mind and tried to address all of the opinions offered in the past few weeks.

Based on a survey of 113 letters on the issue, opinions roughly fell into three groups.

Some were full-strength free speech supporters. They believe students' right to print what they like is not only a legal right, but a vital part of education.

Others said they supported free speech — to a limit. These people argued that some subjects — such as gays or sex — should be off-limits for impressionable students.

Still others advocated a middle-of-the-road approach: journalistic balance. Students shouldn't be restricted, these folks contended, but they should make sure all sides are presented in articles and editorials.

The new policy directly addresses two of these three areas.

Clearly, it embraces free speech by not banning subjects and by keeping students in control.

The policy also has something for the pro-balance crowd. While

it does not demand balance and objectivity in articles and editorials — that would be tricky to define and enforce, members said — the policy encourages it in two separate places.

What the policy doesn't do is place some subjects off-limits, as some people argued for. Principals can screen a newspaper to ensure it meets state law — a new addition. But board members said dictating taboo topics would break Colorado law.

"We feel what we have is a sound, rational, middle-of-the-road approach," board member Lyman Kaiser said.

But debate on the issue is sure to continue, the way it did at Doherty High School on Wednesday afternoon.

Student journalists working to get out the February edition of *The Spectrum*, Doherty's newspaper, had different opinions about the policy to be debated that night.

Editors Jenna McCullin and Lindsey Schoener liked it. They

felt there shouldn't be limits on students' free speech.

Not so, said reporter Ashleigh Reding, who felt the policy should ban stories about homosexuality.

"We should write about issues that affect us," said Schoener. "But when I go and write an article, I have to make sure I get all sides. This whole thing has made me a better reporter."

You've Earned - Now Available in Colorado!

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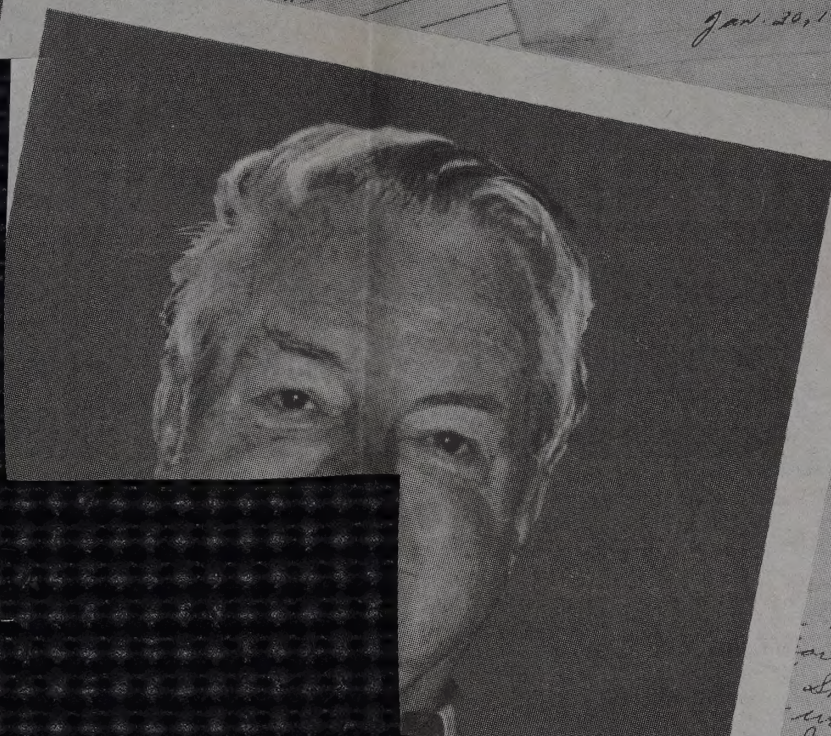
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